

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An electronically-based transaction handling system utilizes a single transaction identifier during all phases of the order-to-cash trading cycle. Information regarding the various phases of the transaction is linked to or associated with the transaction identifier and readily accessible by a plurality of remotely located users. The transaction information preferably is updated to provide up-to-date information to the various parties involved in the transaction. The single transaction identifier eliminates the need for handling various papers and matching multiple sources of information that was previously required during a typical transaction.

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